

PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN

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(54) ULTRASONIC WELDING METHOD OF A LARGE NUMBER OF LAMINATED METALLIC FOILS

(57)Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To provide excellent welding without breaking a metallic foil by arranging a protective metallic sheet on an upper side on a horn abutting side of a large number of laminated metallic foils, and performing the ultrasonic welding.

SOLUTION: Metallic foils which are works to be joined are laminated on a working surface of an anvil, and an ultrasonic oscillation horn to be moved parallel to the anvil is pressed thereon to weld the metallic foils to each other. A protective metallic sheet is arranged on an upper side of a large number of laminated metallic foils on the horn abutting side to perform the ultrasonic welding. Excellent welding can be obtained without breaking the metallic foils which are works to be joined irrespective of the magnitude of ruggedness of the abutting surfaces of the ultrasonic oscillation horn and the anvil even when a large number of metallic foils are laminated and welded. The protective metallic sheet is of the same material as that of a large number of laminated metallic foils to be welded, and the material is preferably annealed. In addition, the thickness of the protective metallic sheet is preferably 50-200 μ m.

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CLAIMS

[Claim(s)]

[Claim 1] In ultrasonic welding method which places a metallic foil laminated several many sheets on a processed surface of Ambil, presses an ultrasonic horn which vibrates from on the in parallel to a processed surface of this Ambil, and welds metallic foils, An ultrasonic welding method of a metallic foil arranging and carrying out ultrasonic welding of the metal plate for protection to the upper face part [of a metallic foil laminated several many sheets], and phon contact side and which was laminated several many sheets.

[Claim 2] An ultrasonic welding method of the metallic foil according to claim 1 being a metallic foil and same material which several many metal plates for said protection laminate, and weld and which was laminated several many sheets.

[Claim 3] An ultrasonic welding method of the metallic foil according to claim 1 being the material which a metal plate for said protection annealed and which was laminated several many sheets.

[Claim 4] An ultrasonic welding method of the metallic foil according to claim 1 laminated several many sheets that thickness of a metal plate for said protection is characterized by not less than 50-micrometer being 200 micrometers or less.

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[Detailed Description of the Invention]

[0001]

[Field of the Invention] This invention relates to the ultrasonic welding of the metallic foil laminated several many sheets, and relates to several multi-sheet lamination welding of the metal foil collector used for a lithium cell etc. in more detail.

[0002]

[Description of the Prior Art] Conventionally, ultrasonic welding method has been widely used for welding of metallic foils. Generally, a connected object is made to approach the distance which is several angstroms which attraction commits mutually between the atoms of the surface of a connected object, it produces by taking arrangement with an orderly atom of the whole field, and making it contact, and welding has welding technique, such as (1) melting welding, (2) solid phase welding, and (3) soldering. Ultrasonic welding carries out melting only of the thin layer which it is classified into solid phase welding, and solid phase welding hardly fused a contact surface, or was restricted extremely, and is joined.

[0003] As ultrasonic welding is shown in drawing 1, the metallic foils 2 and 3 which are connected objects on the processed surface of Ambil 1 are piled up, the ultrasonic oscillation horn 4 which vibrates from on this in parallel to Ambil 1 is pressed and pressurized, and supersonic vibration is given to a connected object interface in this state. Oxides which exist in the surface are removed by the plastic deformation produced by supersonic vibration, and the above welding is made by promoting atomic diffusion by frictional heat further.

[0004] Here, the contact surface of the ultrasonic oscillation horn 4 and the contact surface of Ambil 1 have the pyramid type unevenness which consists of a respectively fixed pitch.

A connected object is gripped with this unevenness.

However, if pyramid type unevenness is large, the piece and hole vacancy of a metallic foil will arise. Therefore, in the JP, 6-155051, A ***** gazette, while carrying out sandblast treatment of the contact surface of Ambil 1, the thing of making an ultrasonic oscillation horn contact the metal plate side with thick thickness is proposed.

[0005]

[Problem(s) to be Solved by the Invention] However, in what laminated several many metallic foils, even if it carries out sandblast treatment of the contact surface of Ambil, the joining interface of two or more sheets cannot be gripped, and supersonic vibration is not transmitted to the lower part of a layered product. Therefore, conversely, unevenness of an ultrasonic oscillation horn and the contact surface of

Ambil is large, and must be made deep. moreover -- many -- in order to weld several sheets, it is necessary to make an amount of energy increase However, when unevenness of the ultrasonic oscillation horn and the contact surface of Ambil was greatly made deep or the amount of energy was made to only increase, the metallic foil was destroyed, and there was a problem that suitable welding was not obtained. When the purpose of this invention carries out ultrasonic welding of the metallic foil laminated several many sheets, it does not have destruction of a metallic foil and obtains good welding.

[0006]

[Means for Solving the Problem] In order to solve an aforementioned problem, when welding a metallic foil laminated several many sheets with ultrasonic welding method, this invention arranges a metal plate for protection, and performs ultrasonic welding to the upper face part [of a metallic foil laminated several many sheets], and phon contact side.

[0007]

[Embodiment of the Invention] By arranging the metal plate for protection and performing ultrasonic welding to the upper face part [of the metallic foil laminated several many sheets], and phon contact side, Good welding can be obtained without destroying the metallic foil which is a connected object, when laminating several many metallic foils and welding them regardless of an ultrasonic oscillation horn and the size of unevenness of the contact surface of Ambil, and the depth. Under the present circumstances, as for the metal plate for protection, it is desirable that it is the metallic foil and same material which are laminated several many sheets and welded, and is the annealed material. This is because things and melting temperature with little way to the difference of the plastic deformation between a metal plate and a metallic foil which is same material do not differ from each other greatly. Supersonic vibration is easy to be transmitted easily to the lower part, and the way which used what was annealed is considered to be hard to lose addition energy.

[0008] As for the thickness of the metal plate for protection, it is desirable that it is [not less than 50 micrometer] 200 micrometers or less. It is because supersonic vibration will become that it is hard to be transmitted to the metallic foil side laminated several many sheets if the role of protection cannot be played if it becomes thinner than 50 micrometers, and set to not less than 200 micrometers. The metal plate for protection is united with a metallic foil layered product after welding.

[0009]

[Example] Hereafter, the aluminium foil and copper foil which are the charge collectors for lithium ion batteries about the ultrasonic welding method of the metallic foil concerning this invention laminated several many sheets are used for an example, and are described using a concrete example and comparative example.

(Examples 1-7 by this invention) 50 20-micrometer-thick aluminium foil (A1085H-H18) was laminated, the ultrasonic welder of every other sheet 20 kHz, and 3000W output was used for the upper surface, and the 100-micrometer-thick aluminum plate (A1050H-H1/4) was welded to it. Amplitude was 50 micrometers and welding pressure was [200 kgf/cm² and the addition energy of the welding condition at this time] 200J. Changing the construction material of a guard plate, hardness, and thickness, others performed ultrasonic welding of Examples 2-7 of this invention like Example 1 of this invention. It carried out, also when it was considered as the comparative example 1 and a guard plate was not used. The construction material, the hardness, the thickness, and the welding condition of the used guard plate are shown in Table 1. In this case, A1050H material was used for the aluminum material. All the frequency of the ultrasonic wave

oscillator was 20 kHz.

[0010]

[Table 1]

| | 保護板 | | | 溶接条件 | | |
|------|-----|------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| | 材質 | 硬度 | 厚み (μm) | 振幅 (μm) | 加圧力 (kgf/cm^2) | 付加エネルギー (J) |
| 実施例1 | アルミ | 1/4H | 100 | 50 | 200 | 200 |
| 実施例2 | 銅 | — | 100 | 50 | 200 | 300 |
| 実施例3 | アルミ | H18 | 100 | 50 | 200 | 300 |
| 実施例4 | アルミ | 1/4H | 30 | 30 | 200 | 200 |
| 実施例5 | アルミ | 1/4H | 50 | 50 | 200 | 200 |
| 実施例6 | アルミ | 1/4H | 200 | 50 | 200 | 300 |
| 実施例7 | アルミ | 1/4H | 300 | 50 | 200 | 300 |
| 比較例1 | — | — | — | 50 | 200 | 200 |

[0011]Next, the case where copper foil is used is explained.

(Examples 8-14 by this invention) 50 30-micrometer-thick electrolytic copper foil was laminated, the ultrasonic welder of every other sheet 20 kHz, and 3000W output was used for the upper surface, and the 100-micrometer-thick copper plate (C1020-1/4H) was welded to it. Amplitude was 65 micrometers and welding pressure was [300 kgf/cm^2 and the addition energy of the welding condition at this time] 2000J. Changing the construction material of a guard plate, hardness, and thickness, others performed ultrasonic welding of Examples 9-14 of this invention like Example 8 of this invention. It carried out, also when a guard plate was not used as the comparative example 2. The construction material, the hardness, the thickness, and the welding condition of the used guard plate are shown in Table 2. In this case, C1020 material was used for the aluminum material. All the frequency of the ultrasonic wave oscillator was 20 kHz.

[0012]

[Table 2]

| | 保護板 | | | 溶接条件 | | |
|-------|-----|------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| | 材質 | 硬度 | 厚み (μm) | 振幅 (μm) | 加圧力 (kgf/cm^2) | 付加エネルギー (J) |
| 実施例8 | 銅 | 1/4H | 100 | 65 | 300 | 2000 |
| 実施例9 | 銅 | — | 100 | 65 | 300 | 3000 |
| 実施例10 | 銅 | H | 100 | 65 | 300 | 2500 |
| 実施例11 | 銅 | 1/4H | 30 | 65 | 300 | 2000 |
| 実施例12 | 銅 | 1/4H | 50 | 65 | 300 | 2000 |
| 実施例13 | 銅 | 1/4H | 200 | 65 | 300 | 3000 |
| 実施例14 | 銅 | 1/4H | 300 | 65 | 300 | 3000 |
| 比較例2 | — | — | — | 65 | 300 | 2000 |

[0013]The jointing condition after ultrasonic welding was examined about the above thing. A result is shown in Tables 3 and 4.

[0014]

[Table 3]

| | 溶接結果 | 切れや孔あき |
|------|------|--------|
| 実施例1 | ○ | なし |
| 実施例2 | ○ | なし |
| 実施例3 | ○ | なし |
| 実施例4 | △ | 保護板に切れ |
| 実施例5 | ○ | なし |
| 実施例6 | ○ | なし |
| 実施例7 | ○ | なし |
| 比較例1 | × | 金属箔に切れ |

[0015]

[Table 4]

| | 溶接結果 | 切れや孔あき |
|-------|------|--------|
| 実施例8 | ○ | なし |
| 実施例9 | ○ | なし |
| 実施例10 | ○ | なし |
| 実施例11 | △ | 保護板に切れ |
| 実施例12 | ○ | なし |
| 実施例13 | ○ | なし |
| 実施例14 | ○ | なし |
| 比較例2 | × | 金属箔に切れ |

[0016]Although the welding result was made into 0, x, and ** and 0 and junction were carried out as for the thing satisfactory at all, even if what the crack etc. produced was insufficient for the metal plate for protection in ** and junction or it was joined to it, that for which the metallic foil was cracked was taken as x. Although the comparative examples 1 and 2 which do not have a guard plate in aluminium foil and electrolytic copper foil were carried out, the metallic foil upper surface was destroyed, and the crack etc. produced junction. Examples 2 and 9 by this invention using the nickel board which is a dissimilar material are joined, and destruction of the metallic foil was not seen, either. However, it may become output shortage, when energy loss is large, must add the energy beyond the minimum energy required for welding and increases lamination number of sheets further. Although Examples 3 and 10 of this invention using the guard plate of the hardness H18 (aluminum) and H (copper) type which have not carried out an annealing process were joined good and destruction of the metallic foil was not seen, either, Energy loss is large like the time of using the nickel board which is a dissimilar material, and the energy beyond the minimum energy required for welding is needed. The way of the annealed construction material has the large plastic deformation of a metal plate, supersonic vibration is easy to be transmitted easily to the lower part, and this is considered to be hard to lose addition energy.

[0017]Although the thickness of the guard plate was obtained [in general good junction results] at 30 to 300 micrometers, when it became thinner than 50 micrometers, the piece of some guard plate was seen, but the metallic foil was not destroyed. When it becomes thicker than 200 micrometers, there is no destruction of a piece etc., but it will be in the state of being hard to be joined if the addition amount of energy at the

time of junction is not enlarged. Therefore, it seems that 50 to about 200 micrometers is more preferred as for the thickness of a guard plate. Although the aluminium foil (A1085H-H18) and electrolytic copper foil which are generally used as an object for lithium cells were used for this example, about the contents of this invention of that from which the welding minimum requirement differs, the equivalent effect is checked [materials / other] about other presentation articles.

[0018]

[Effect of the Invention]As mentioned above, when carrying out ultrasonic welding of the metallic foil of several multi-sheet lamination according to this invention, there is no destruction of a piece, a hole vacancy, etc. in a metallic foil, and good welding can be obtained. Therefore, in the lithium cell which uses metallic foils, such as aluminium foil and copper foil, for a charge collector, several multi-sheet lamination welding of a charge collector is attained, and a high capacity cell can be obtained.

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DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

[Brief Description of the Drawings]

[Drawing 1]It is an explanatory view of the device used for the ultrasonic welding method of a metallic foil.

[Translation done.]

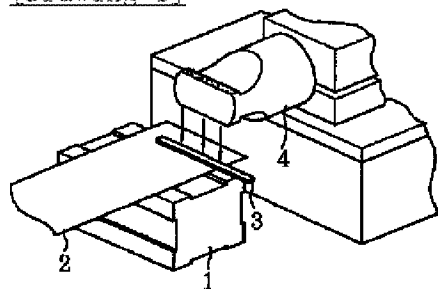
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DRAWINGS

[Drawing 1]



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(54) 【発明の名称】 多数枚積層した金属箔の超音波溶接方法

(57) 【要約】

【課題】金属箔を多数枚積層して超音波溶接する際に、金属箔の破壊なく、良好な溶接ができるようにすること。

【解決手段】厚さ20 μ mのアルミニウム箔(A1085H-H18)を50枚積層し、その上面に厚さ100 μ mのアルミニウム板(A1050H-H1/4)を1枚置き、20kHz、3000W出力の超音波溶接機を用い溶接する。

【特許請求の範囲】

【請求項1】アンビルの加工面上に多数枚積層した金属箔を置き、その上から該アンビルの加工面に対して平行に振動する超音波ホーンを押し当てて金属箔同士を溶接する超音波溶接法において、多数枚積層した金属箔の上面部、ホーン当接側に保護用の金属板を配し、超音波溶接することを特徴とする多数枚積層した金属箔の超音波溶接方法。

【請求項2】前記保護用の金属板が多数枚積層して溶接する金属箔と同材質であることを特徴とする請求項1記載の多数枚積層した金属箔の超音波溶接方法。

【請求項3】前記保護用の金属板が焼鈍した材料であることを特徴とする請求項1記載の多数枚積層した金属箔の超音波溶接方法。

【請求項4】前記保護用の金属板の厚みが $50\mu\text{m}$ 以上 $200\mu\text{m}$ 以下であることを特徴とする請求項1記載の多数枚積層した金属箔の超音波溶接方法。

【発明の詳細な説明】**【0001】**

【発明の属する技術分野】本発明は多数枚積層した金属箔の超音波溶接に関するものであり、さらに詳しくは、リチウム電池等に用いられる金属箔集電体の多数枚積層溶接に関するものである。

【0002】

【従来の技術】従来、金属箔同士の溶接には超音波溶接法が広く用いられてきた。一般に溶接とは、被接合物の表面の原子相互間に引力が働き合うような数オングストロームの距離に被接合物を接近させ、面全体の原子が秩序ある配列をとって接触させることにより生じるものであり、(1) 熔融溶接、(2) 固相溶接、(3) ろう付け等の溶接技術がある。超音波溶接は固相溶接に分類されるものであり、固相溶接とは接触面をほとんど熔融しないか、もしくは極めて限られた薄層のみを熔融させて接合させるものである。

【0003】超音波溶接とは図1に示すように、アンビル1の加工面上で被接合物である金属箔2、3を重ね、この上からアンビル1に対して平行に振動する超音波発振ホーン4を押しあて加圧し、この状態で超音波振動を被接合物界面に与えるものである。超音波振動によって生じた塑性変形により、表面に存在する酸化物等は取り除かれ、さらに摩擦熱により原子の拡散が促進されることにより、上記のような溶接がなされる。

【0004】ここで、超音波発振ホーン4の当接面とアンビル1の当接面は、それぞれ一定のピッチからなるピラミッド型の凹凸を有しており、この凹凸により被接合物をグリップする。しかし、ピラミッド型の凹凸が大きいと金属箔の切れや孔あきが生じてしまう。そのため、特開平6-155051号公報では、アンビル1の当接面をサンドブラスト処理するとともに厚みの厚い金属板側に超音波発振ホーンを当接させるというものが提

案されている。

【0005】

【発明が解決しようとする課題】しかしながら、金属箔を多数枚積層したものでは、アンビルの当接面をサンドブラスト処理しても、複数枚の接合界面をグリップすることはできず、積層体の下部まで超音波振動が伝わらない。そのため、逆に超音波発振ホーン及びアンビルの当接面の凹凸は大きく、深くしなければならない。また、多数枚を溶接するためにはエネルギー量を増加させる必要がある。しかし、超音波発振ホーン及びアンビルの当接面の凹凸を大きく、深くしたり、単にエネルギー量を増加させると金属箔が破壊され、適切な溶接が得られないという問題があった。本発明の目的は、多数枚積層した金属箔を超音波溶接する際に、金属箔の破壊なく、良好な溶接を得るものである。

【0006】

【課題を解決するための手段】上記課題を解決するために、本発明は、多数枚積層した金属箔を超音波溶接法により溶接する場合において、多数枚積層した金属箔の上面部、ホーン当接側に保護用の金属板を配し、超音波溶接を行うものである。

【0007】

【発明の実施形態】多数枚積層した金属箔の上面部、ホーン当接側に保護用の金属板を配し、超音波溶接を行うことにより、超音波発振ホーン及びアンビルの当接面の凹凸の大きさ、深さに関係なく、金属箔を多数枚積層し溶接する際においても被接合物である金属箔を破壊することなく良好な溶接を得ることができる。この際、保護用の金属板は多数枚積層し溶接する金属箔と同材質であり、また、焼鈍した材料であることが望ましい。これは、同材質であるほうが金属板と金属箔間での塑性変形の差が少ないことと熔融温度が大きく異ならないためである。また、焼鈍したものをを用いたほうが、超音波振動が下部まで容易に伝達され易く、付加エネルギーをロスし難いものと思われる。

【0008】さらに、保護用の金属板の厚みは $50\mu\text{m}$ 以上 $200\mu\text{m}$ 以下であることが望ましい。 $50\mu\text{m}$ よりも薄くなると、保護の役割を果たすことができず、また、 $200\mu\text{m}$ 以上になると超音波振動が多数枚積層した金属箔側に伝達され難くなるためである。保護用の金属板は溶接後、金属箔積層体と一体化する。

【0009】

【実施例】以下、本発明に係る多数枚積層した金属箔の超音波溶接法を、リチウムイオン電池用集電体であるアルミニウム箔及び銅箔を例に用い具体的な実施例及び比較例を用いて記述する。

(本発明による実施例1～7) 厚さ $20\mu\text{m}$ のアルミニウム箔(A1085H-H18)を50枚積層し、その上面に厚さ $100\mu\text{m}$ のアルミニウム板(A1050H-H1/4)を1枚置き、 20kHz 、 3000W 出力の超音波溶接機を用い

溶接した。この時の溶接条件は、振幅が $50\mu\text{m}$ 、加圧力が 200kgf/cm^2 、付加エネルギーが 200J であった。保護板の材質、硬度、厚みを変化させ、その他は本発明の実施例1と同様にし、本発明の実施例2から7の超音波溶接を行った。また、比較例1とし保護板を使用しない場合も行った。使用した保護板の材質、硬度、厚

み及び溶接条件を表1に示す。この場合、アルミニウム材にはA1050H材を用いた。超音波発振器の周波数はすべて 20kHz とした。

【0010】

【表1】

| | 保護板 | | | 溶接条件 | | |
|------|-------|------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|----------------|
| | 材質 | 硬度 | 厚み (μm) | 振幅 (μm) | 加圧力 (kgf/cm^2) | 付加エネルギー (J) |
| 実施例1 | アルミウム | 1/4H | 100 | 50 | 200 | 200 |
| 実施例2 | ニッケル | — | 100 | 50 | 200 | 300 |
| 実施例3 | アルミウム | H18 | 100 | 50 | 200 | 300 |
| 実施例4 | アルミウム | 1/4H | 30 | 30 | 200 | 200 |
| 実施例5 | アルミウム | 1/4H | 50 | 50 | 200 | 200 |
| 実施例6 | アルミウム | 1/4H | 200 | 50 | 200 | 300 |
| 実施例7 | アルミウム | 1/4H | 300 | 50 | 200 | 300 |
| 比較例1 | — | — | — | 50 | 200 | 200 |

【0011】次に銅箔を用いた場合について説明する。(本発明による実施例8～14)厚さ $30\mu\text{m}$ の電解銅箔を50枚積層し、その上面に厚さ $100\mu\text{m}$ の銅板(C1020-1/4H)を1枚置き、 20kHz 、 3000W 出力の超音波溶接機を用い溶接した。この時の溶接条件は、振幅が $65\mu\text{m}$ 、加圧力が 300kgf/cm^2 、付加エネルギーが 2000J であった。保護板の材質、硬度、厚みを変化させ、その他は本発明の実施例8と同様に

し、本発明の実施例9から14の超音波溶接を行った。また、比較例2として保護板を使用しない場合も行った。使用した保護板の材質、硬度、厚み及び溶接条件を表2に示す。この場合、アルミニウム材にはC1020材を用いた。超音波発振器の周波数はすべて 20kHz とした。

【0012】

【表2】

| | 保護板 | | | 溶接条件 | | |
|-------|------|------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|----------------|
| | 材質 | 硬度 | 厚み (μm) | 振幅 (μm) | 加圧力 (kgf/cm^2) | 付加エネルギー (J) |
| 実施例8 | 銅 | 1/4H | 100 | 65 | 300 | 2000 |
| 実施例9 | ニッケル | — | 100 | 65 | 300 | 3000 |
| 実施例10 | 銅 | H | 100 | 65 | 300 | 2500 |
| 実施例11 | 銅 | 1/4H | 30 | 65 | 300 | 2000 |
| 実施例12 | 銅 | 1/4H | 50 | 65 | 300 | 2000 |
| 実施例13 | 銅 | 1/4H | 200 | 65 | 300 | 3000 |
| 実施例14 | 銅 | 1/4H | 300 | 65 | 300 | 3000 |
| 比較例2 | — | — | — | 65 | 300 | 2000 |

【0013】以上のものについて、超音波溶接後の接合状態を検討した。結果を表3、4に示す。

【0014】

【表3】

| | 溶接結果 | 切れや孔あき |
|------|------|--------|
| 実施例1 | ○ | なし |
| 実施例2 | ○ | なし |
| 実施例3 | ○ | なし |
| 実施例4 | △ | 保護板に切れ |
| 実施例5 | ○ | なし |
| 実施例6 | ○ | なし |
| 実施例7 | ○ | なし |
| 比較例1 | × | 金属箔に切れ |

【0015】

【表4】

| | 溶接結果 | 切れや孔あき |
|-------|------|--------|
| 実施例8 | ○ | なし |
| 実施例9 | ○ | なし |
| 実施例10 | ○ | なし |
| 実施例11 | △ | 保護板に切れ |
| 実施例12 | ○ | なし |
| 実施例13 | ○ | なし |
| 実施例14 | ○ | なし |
| 比較例2 | × | 金属箔に切れ |

【0016】溶接結果は、○、×、△とし、全く問題ないものは○、接合はされているが、保護用の金属板に亀裂等が生じたものは△、接合不十分もしくは接合されていても金属箔に亀裂等が生じたものは×とした。アルミニウム箔、電解銅箔ともに、保護板がない比較例1、2は接合はされているが金属箔上面が破壊され、亀裂等が生じた。また、異種材料であるニッケル板を用いた本発明による実施例2、9は接合されており、また、金属箔の破壊も見られなかった。しかしながら、エネルギーロ

スが大きく、溶接に必要な最低エネルギー以上のエネルギーを付加しなければならず、さらに積層枚数を増やした場合に出力不足になる可能性がある。焼鈍処理していない硬度H18（アルミニウム）やH（銅）タイプの保護板を用いた本発明の実施例3、10は良好に接合され、金属箔の破壊も見られなかったが、異種材料であるニッケル板を使った時と同様にエネルギーロスが大きく、溶接に必要な最低エネルギー以上のエネルギーが必要となる。これは、焼鈍した材質のほうが金属板の塑性変形が大きく、超音波振動が下部まで容易に伝達され易く、付加エネルギーをロスし難いものと思われる。

【0017】保護板の厚みは30 μ mから300 μ mまでで概ね良好な接合結果が得られているが、50 μ mよりも薄くなると、若干の保護板の切れが見られたが、金属箔は破壊されていなかった。200 μ mよりも厚くなると切れ等の破壊はないが、接合時の付加エネルギー量を大きくしなければ接合されにくい状態になる。よって、保護板の厚みは50 μ mから200 μ m程度がより好ましいと思われる。本実施例には、一般的にリチウム電池用として用いられているアルミニウム箔（A1085H-H18）と電解銅箔を用いたが、他の組成品についても、また、他の材料についても溶接最低条件は異なるものの本発明内容に関しては同等の効果が確認されている。

【0018】

【発明の効果】上述したように本発明によれば、多数枚積層の金属箔を超音波溶接する際に、金属箔に切れや孔あき等の破壊がなく、良好な溶接を得ることができる。よって、アルミニウム箔や銅箔等の金属箔を集電体に用いるリチウム電池において、集電体の多数枚積層溶接が可能となり、より高容量な電池を得ることができる。

【図面の簡単な説明】

【図1】金属箔の超音波溶接方法に用いる装置の説明図である。

【図1】

